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THE MINI-PATT APPROACH TO INDIVIDUALIZING INSTRUCTION

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In the past, the preparation of audio-tutorial tapes has been tedious and time-consuming. In order to produce a commercial quality audio-tutorial tape, the instructor had to outline the format of the presentation, gather the necessary materials, and prepare a rough tape. This tape was then transcribed into a script, the script was edited (usually by the instructor) and a final tape for instructional purposes was prepared from the edited script. Usually the above sequence of steps required approximately eight to ten hours, which would be spread over a two- or three-day period, with the end product being a 30-minute reel-to-reel tape. This procedure resulted in a tape of commercial quality for multi-duplication purposes.

Most elementary and secondary teachers do not have the time or the resources for such a venture. Teachers who might be interested in producing tapes would only be interested in developing audio-tutorial tapes for their own classes. However, the procedure described above discourages teachers from preparing tapes rather than encouraging them.

We have developed a procedure entitled the Mini-PATT approach which allows teachers to produce instructional tapes suitable for their own classes in a short period of time (usually in about one to three hours for a 30-minute tape).

To prepare instructional tapes utilizing the Mini-PATT approach, the following format is used:

Materials Needed

- 1 cassette tape recorder that records with microphone
- 1 C-60 cassette tape

1 partner (a teacher, child, or another adult will suffice)

Procedure

Decide what concept you would like to teach using the audio-tutorial format. For example: the letter "O," graphing, short vowel sounds, shapes, colors, etc.

CONCEPT:

State your instructional objectives for the concept which you have selected. For example: The child will be able to construct a two-dimensional graph from the data presented utilizing acceptable graphing techniques or the child will be able to use four of his five senses when observing an object.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVE(S):

Obtain all materials and supplies that you will need to implement your instructional objectives. For example: an object for observing, a game you constructed.

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Prepare an evaluation of this concept based on your stated objectives to find out if your audio-tutorial materials were successful. **DO NOT SHOW THIS EVALUATION TO YOUR PARTNER!**

EVALUATION:

Using the materials needed, teach your partner the concept while recording your instructions on tape. Your partner will respond by head actions, NOT VERBALLY. Your lesson should last about 15-20 minutes.

When you have completed your audio-tutorial tape, **LISTEN TO THE RESULTS.** Record your comments regarding your product for

future revision purposes. Both positive and negative aspects should be included.

We have found that the Mini-PATT approach is an effective procedure for developing audio-tutorial tapes for classroom use. To date, over 300 tapes have been prepared by teachers from preschool to elementary to secondary to college level in content and skill areas ranging from mathematics and science to reading to music. Many of the Mini-PATT tapes have been incorporated into interest centers, learning activity packages, and minicourses. Why not try the Mini-PATT approach in your classroom today?

ANY GOOD IDEAS ON ENERGY?

National Science Teachers Association
Washington, D.C.

The NSTA publications committee would like to come out with a booklet describing inexpensive activities related to alternative sources of energy and conservation of energy. If you or your students have activities, experiments, games, audio-visu-als, or other original materials on energy, please share them with other teachers. Write a description (including diagrams or photographs if you wish) and send it to NSTA. Ideas may be in any of the science disciplines or they may be interdisciplinary. Committee members will select and edit the materials and compile them into a publication.

Address your materials to Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins, Director of Publications, National Science Teachers Association, 1201 16th Street Northwest, Washington, D.C. 20036.